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A SEMI-MONTHLY JOURNAL OF

Literary Criticism, Discussion, and Information.

EDITED BY
FRANCIS F. BROWNE. { Volume XXI.
No. 243.

CHICAGO, AUGUST 1, 1896.

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No. 243. AUGUST 1, 1896. Vol. XXI.

CONTENTS.

	PAGE
A YEAR OF CONTINENTAL LITERATURE.—I.	57
COMMUNICATION	60
Theory versus Practice. W. H. Johnson.	
TRAVELS BY LAND AND SEA. E. G. J.	61
Gregory's The Great Rift Valley.—Bull's The Cruise of the "Antarctic."—Gordon's Persia Revisited.—Traill's From Cairo to the Soudan Frontier.—Parr's New Wheels in Old Ruts.	
BAYARD TAYLOR AS A MAN OF LETTERS.	
Tuley Francis Huntington	64
EXPLORATIONS AND PROBLEMS IN THE GREENLAND ICEFIELDS. Rollin D. Salisbury	65
RECENT NEW TESTAMENT LITERATURE.	
Shailer Mathews	67
Sanday's Commentary on the Epistle to the Romans.—Gould's Commentary on St. Mark.—Burton's Records and Letters of the Apostolic Age.—Ramsay's Saint Paul.	
BRIEFS ON NEW BOOKS	70
Vernon Lee's latest volume.—Sixteen volumes of Wordsworth.—Experiments in English criticism.—The latest of Mr. Beardsley.—French views of Germany.—College work in rhetorical criticism.—Essays by Mr. Mabie.—More French impressions of America.	
BRIEFER MENTION	73
LITERARY NOTES	74
TOPICS IN LEADING PERIODICALS	75
LIST OF NEW BOOKS	75

A YEAR OF CONTINENTAL LITERATURE—I.

Following our custom of the last three years, we publish in this and the next number of THE DIAL a summary of the literary history of the chief countries of Continental Europe for the past twelvemonth, availing ourselves for this purpose of the special reports contributed by writers from the several countries concerned to the "Athenæum" of July 4. The service rendered to students of literature by this annual feature of our English contemporary is of the highest value, and we are glad to acknowledge our great indebtedness for the material presented. As heretofore, we shall first discuss the literatures of France, Belgium, Italy, Spain, and Greece; leaving the countries of Northern Europe for a second paper. The authors of the summaries from which we shall quote are M. Joseph Reinach for France, M. Paul Fredericq for Belgium, Signor Alberto Manzi for Italy, Don Juan F. Riaño for Spain, and Professor S. P. Lambros for Greece.

The French summary gives the first place to political literature, with mention of such books as M. Michel's "L'Idée de l'Etat," M. de Molinari's "Comment Résoudre la Question Sociale"; M. Reinach's "Démagogues et Socialistes," and M. Leroy-Beaulieu's four-volume "Traité Théorique et Pratique d'Economie Politique." The Comte de Luçay's historical study of "Decentralization," M. Yves Guyot's "Les Tribulations de M. Faubert" (an argument against the graduated income tax), and the last work of the late Léon Say, "Contre le Socialisme," are other works of importance. "The mine of history still yields richly," the annual output including a new volume of MM. Rambaud and Lavis's "Histoire de France," the last volume of M. Vandal's "Histoire de l'Alliance Russe sous le Premier Empire," the third and fourth volumes of the "Mémoires de Barras," M. Lambert's "Mariage de Madame Roland," and many other books dealing with the Revolution and the Empire. A lively protest is entered against the excessive attention now given to this epoch. "Intensely interesting as that period of history is, the mere fact of their being concerned with it is not enough

by itself to entitle reminiscences and notes to the honours of publication." Our own times are not, however, neglected, as a number of works witness, the most important of them being Benedetti's "Etudes Diplomatiques." The publication of a first volume of Renan's correspondence is, of course, one of the major events of the year. Literary history and criticism next call for mention. "A notable publication upon which M. Petit de Julleville has embarked, with the assistance of a number of eminent thinkers and writers, is 'L'Histoire de la Langue et de la Littérature Françaises des Origines à 1900.' The work, which when complete will occupy not fewer than eight volumes, is fully illustrated. This first part deals with narrative religious poetry." M. Jusserand has published a concise "Histoire de la Littérature Anglaise." Other important works of general literature are M. Nourrisson's "Voltaire et le Voltairianisme," M. Leo Claretie's "J. J. Rousseau et Ses Amis," M. Stapfer's "La Famille de Montaigne," M. Filon's "Le Théâtre Anglais Contemporain," to which the writer pays a high tribute, M. Desjardin's "La Philosophie de Proudhon," M. de Vogüé's "Devant le Siècle," a collection of essays, M. de Freycinet's "Essai sur la Philosophie des Sciences," and M. Sully-Prudhomme's "Que Sais-Je?" — the work of a writer who has won his spurs as a poet, and is now steadily building up a reputation for himself as a profound thinker." Art literature claims Gounod's "Memoires d'un Artiste," the late E. de Goncourt's monograph on Hokusai, M. Larroumet's "L'Art et l'Etat en France," M. Guillaume's "Etudes d'Art Antique et Moderne," and the magnificently illustrated work of MM. Hamdy Bey and T. Reinach, "Une Nécropole Royale à Sidon." Coming at last to the subject of fiction, we find this somewhat discouraging introductory paragraph:

"The output of fiction is as considerable as ever; judging from the booksellers' lists, at least two or three novels must be published per diem. A large proportion of these evidently find their use almost immediately as grocers' wrapping papers; but a still larger number find readers. The public of to-day nourishes itself with novels as well as bread."

M. Zola's "Rome" heads the list, and M. Reinach's criticism is so just that we must quote the whole of it:

"Six weeks' acquaintance with modern Rome was enough for him to make a complete study of that complex entity. The book combines the pith of all Baedeker's remarks upon the objects of interest in the Eternal City with the marrow of the whole history of Rome, from Romulus and Remus to Humbert and Leo

XIII., and a digest of all the ecclesiastical controversies that have taken place from St. Paul's day to that of the last Encyclical. All this is dull, heavy, superficial, and commonplace enough; the plot itself is mediocre; and yet, in spite of it, the whole work is powerful. M. Zola possesses the gift of laying hold of the reader with a hand — or rather a paw — of surprising strength; he holds you in a grip which he never relaxes till the end is reached. Abuse him as you will, you can seldom reproach him with boring you."

The remaining novels of the year are "L'Idylle Tragique," by M. Paul Bourget; "Aphrodite," by M. Pierre Louys; "Après Fortune Faite," by M. Cherbuliez; "Dernier Refuge," by M. Rod; "L'Empreinte," by M. Estaunié; "L'Effort," by M. Margueritte; and "Les Kam-schatka," by M. Léon Daudet. "As for poetry, it is lying very fallow," is the concluding sentence of M. Reinach's report.

Studies in local history and topography figure largely in the Belgian literary product, and have, of course, slight interest for readers outside the Netherlands. M. Fredericq tells us that "Les Jeunes Belges" are at outs with one another. They "have become split up into two or three little hostile camps that vilify and assail one another with much fervor. Their members have even gone so far as personal assault in the streets, rendering judicial interference necessary." Two of them, MM. C. Lemonnier and G. Rodenbach, have even fled to Paris in disgust. M. Maeterlinck has contributed "Le Trésor des Humbles," "a work of pronounced mystical flavour," to the literature of the year. Three works of literary history are singled out for praise: M. Loise's "L'Histoire de la Poésie Italienne," M. Gilbert's "Le Roman en France pendant le XIXe. Siècle," and MM. Heq and Paris's "La Poésie Française au Moyen Age et à la Renaissance." M. Eekhoud has made a good translation of Beaumont and Fletcher's "Philaster." In the Flemish literature of Belgium, although "no really remarkable work has appeared during the past twelve months either in the department of poetry or the drama," the prose writers have "produced a crop that is not only prolific, but rich and valuable as well." The veteran M. Slegckx, seventy-eight years old, has published "Vesalius in Spanje," a historical romance of the sixteenth century. Mlle. Virginie Loveling and her nephew, M. Cyriel Buyse, "still occupy the position of the two leading Flemish prose writers." The latter has published two new books, "Wroeging" and "Mea Culpa"; the former has won the prize of five thousand francs, offered quinquennially

"for the encouragement of Flemish literature," with "Een Dure Eed" (not a work of the past year, however), and has published "Het Land der Verbeelding," "consisting of two stories, in which her unflinching freshness of manner, keen power of psychological analysis, and picturesque power of description are directed upon life as lived in our typical Flemish villages. M. L. Simons has published a Flemish translation of "Béowulf." The last item in M. Fredéricq's report is the following:

"M. Max Rooses, the well-known custodian of the Musée Plantin, has issued two volumes of art criticism under the title of 'Oude en Nieuwe Kunst.' In these he deals with the principal masterpieces of seventeenth century Flemish and Dutch painting to be found in the Louvre and the Antwerp and Vienna Galleries. He also includes excellent criticism of a number of Flemish painters of this century, such as Leys, Lies, Verlat, bringing his survey up to the present day. Coming from the pen of one who is not only our leading literary and artistic critic, but also one of the most finished and charming of our prose writers, the book is as remarkable for its manner as for its matter."

Signor Alberto Manzi, writing of things Italian, begins with a tribute to the late Ruggero Bonghi, his predecessor as correspondent of "The Athenæum." His translation of Plato, his unfinished "Storia di Roma," and his great work for public education, will long be remembered by a grateful country. Speaking of education, we find the following deeply interesting statement:

"More enlightened ideas are everywhere coming to the front, and the revolution extends from the writers of children's books to those who educate the youths undergoing a course of higher education. From Carlo Lorenzini (Collodi) to Giosuè Carducci a new, practical, and rational method has gained a hold in all ranks — a method which no longer repels the young, but invites them to studies which, from being tedious, pedantic, and of doubtful utility, have become in the highest degree practical."

Sig. Carducci has published nothing during the year, but is engaged upon a poem to be called "La Battaglia di Legnano" and an eagerly-awaited "Storia del Risorgimento Italiano." He has also promised "a work in several volumes dealing with the early Italian theatre." In fiction, "the great event of the year is the new book by Ada Negri, entitled 'Tempeste,'" a book which has, however, "all the defects of 'Fatalità,' which time and study should have eliminated. The lyre of Ada Negri has but one string; the greater part of her movements are well known, and the variations lack that spontaneity and ingenuous inspiration which contributed so greatly to the success of 'Fatalità.' Though 'Tempeste' is not intrinsically

inferior to the author's preceding volume, it nevertheless furnishes us with fewer hopes concerning this elementary-school mistress of Motta Visconti, singularly favored by fortune since her *début*, and now — to the surprise of her Socialist friends — married to a wealthy manufacturer." Another leading event of the year in fiction is Sig. d'Annunzio's "Le Vergini delle Rocce," the first of a cycle to be called "I Romanzi del Giglio." "The commercial success of the book has not proved its value, but simply testifies to the power of curiosity. This publication of the 'Vergini delle Rocce' has laid bare a series of plagiarisms committed by D'Annunzio, both in his verse and his prose, from French, Russian, and Italian authors, and these not amongst the least celebrated. The philosophical conception of his last novel is inspired by some ill-digested theories of Nietzsche, while its general structure is borrowed from a French work. The third novel of importance is Sig. Fogazzaro's "Piccolo Mondo Antico," which "has rightly been extolled everywhere as a masterpiece. The author carries us back to 1859; here the hopes and the struggles, the greatness and the meanness, the minds and the hearts of a little world, are set forth with delightful fidelity, without any striving after 'obscure things,' without any posing, and yet with a certain grandeur and goodness of spirit, the two characteristics of Fogazzaro's whole work. He makes his '59 bear a strong resemblance to the present year of grace in all that has regard to the freshness of hope and the desire for a high standard of national morality." Other novels are Sig. Rovetta's "Il Tenente dei Lancieri" and Signora Serao's "L'Indifferente." The twenty-fifth anniversary of the complete integration of the Italian kingdom has naturally called forth many books of recent Italian history, and the outburst of Napoleonic literature has been almost as great in Italy as in France. Sig. Tebaldo, in his "Napoleone: una Pagina Storico-Psicologica del Genio," argues that "Napoleon was not epileptic in the proper signification of the word, although exhibiting several characteristics of epilepsy; he was neurotic." A similar study of Byron, by Sig. Mingazzini, "Sullo Stato Mentale di Lord Byron," argues "that anyone who should attempt to reduce to a definite morbid type the psychopathic manifestations that occur in Byron's life would fail in the endeavour," but finds a lack of equilibrium, coupled with the special effects of alcoholism and opium-eating. Another great poet was undoubtedly epileptic,

according to Sig. Patrizi's "Saggio Critico-Antropologico su G. Leopardi." These Italian disciples of Professor Lombroso seem unwilling to allow that any man of great genius can be wholly sound mentally. A far more serious and well-balanced work is Sig. Morselli's "L'Eredità Materiale, Morale, e Intellettuale del XIX. Secolo," in which this distinguished scholar "examines separately and impartially the phenomena of the struggle for existence, intensified and rendered almost ferocious by the increased means of resistance and combat. On the one hand, we see an increase in the number of lunatics and suicides; on the other, morality is steadily emancipating itself from the theocracy, and sociology is preparing a better future for the disinherited." The study of sociology in Italy, as everywhere else, is assuming large dimensions. Sig. de Amicis, it is said, has been converted to socialism. Among the books in this department are "Società, Socialismo, e Anarchia," by Sig. Augias; "Il Socialismo e la Scuola," by Sig. Pancera; and "Socialismo Cattolico," by Sig. Soderini.

Spain reports a long list of works historical or otherwise erudite in character, but hardly deserving of enumeration here. Señor Menéndez y Pelayo is carrying on his monumental edition of Lope de Vega, his "Antología de Poetas Hispano-Americanos," and his edition of Quevedo. "Regarding poetry, fiction, and the drama, there is, unfortunately, little to be said. Poetry is in a languid state. A certain amount of verse on the old lines is produced; but there is certainly nothing published that is in the least degree likely to astonish the reader, or indicates a new departure of any value, or is likely to add a new name to the well-known list." The only exception to this general statement is furnished by the sonnets and madrigals of Señor Rodríguez Marín, "who imitates the models of our golden age to perfection." The theatre has witnessed new plays by Señores Echegaray, P. Galdós, Dicenta, and Felín y Codina. Among novels, the "Nazarín" of Señor Galdós stands first, followed by the "Juanita la Larga" of Señor Valera, the "Los Magos de Cadiz" of Señor P. Valdés, and Señora Bazán's four-volume collection of short stories and miscellaneous sketches.

From Greece we do not expect very much in the way of literature of general interest. The Olympic Games have naturally given rise to a number of books, the more important of which are enumerated by Mr. Lambros. "Of historical publications, by far the most important

is the 'History of Ali Pasha,' by Spyridon Aravantinos. . . . It comprises not only the life and deeds of the tyrant of Epirus, but also his surroundings and contemporary events as well; and, besides, it depicts the manners and customs of the time." Professor George Hatzidakis, of the University of Athens, "adduces in his treatise on 'The Hellenism of the Ancient Macedonians' indisputable proofs, historical and philological, of the identity of the countrymen of Philip and Alexander with the Greek nation." The best imaginative work of the year is the volume of "Poems New and Old" by Mr. A. Provelengios. "A native of the island of Siphnos, he is most at home on the sea. Hence that part of his poems of which the title is 'Thalassa' is the most beautiful. Yet there are many gems to be found in 'Autumn Harmonies,' his 'German Reminiscences,' his 'Sides of Life,' his 'Funeral Flowers.' Whether he sings of love, or bewails the death of his young wife, or admires antiquity or a little deserted church covered with ivy, he always soothes his readers by his sound poetical feeling and his lovely descriptions. But when he repeats a sailor's song or describes the evening light and the setting of the sun at sea, when he brings softly before his readers the legions of mariners and their heart struggles, he charms us irresistibly."

COMMUNICATION.

THEORY VERSUS PRACTICE.

(To the Editor of THE DIAL.)

The construction of a certain class of verbs in the passive voice, with an object, is inevitable, as its very opponents testify by usage when off their guard. The "New York Sun" was recently caught in its own trap; and now comes another. The American Book Company has just issued a new "Practical Rhetoric" by Professor Quackenbos. On page 242 is the strong statement that "passive verbs cannot properly govern the objective case. . . . The construction has been tolerated as convenient, but is protested against by all who respect pure English." On page 10, however, we have the statement that "the writer is shown how to express his thoughts," etc., in which the words "how to express his thoughts" are of course the object of "is shown."

It is time that critics, and especially editors who adopt for their motto the words of Lowell, "I am a bookman," thus laying claim to a wide knowledge of literature, should throw aside a rule whose formulation is due to faulty logic and narrow induction, and enjoy a privilege which is theirs by the genius of Indo-European speech, the laws of thought, and the usage of good writers and speakers of the English tongue.

W. H. JOHNSON.

Granville, Ohio, July 20, 1896.

The New Books.

TRAVELS BY LAND AND SEA.*

"The Great Rift Valley," a rather stout, handsomely-mounted volume of some four hundred pages, contains the story of a scientific and exploring expedition into British East Africa, told by a leading participant in the venture, Mr. J. W. Gregory of the Natural History department of the British Museum. The Expedition was undertaken in 1892-3, and Mr. Gregory accompanied it as naturalist. The interest of the volume is scientific rather than literary; for while the author presents many useful facts as to the flora and fauna, the geology and anthropology, of the regions visited, his style is as matter-of-fact as his journey was comfortably devoid of the "hair-breadth 'scapes" and privations that usually fall to the lot of the African explorer. Since the discoveries of Burton and Speke and of Livingstone verified the native reports of great inland seas toward the interior of the Dark Continent, the investigation of the East African lake system has been the branch of exploration in which the widest general interest has been taken. Mr. F. Galton pointed out, in 1884, that the great depression in which lakes Naivasha and Baringo lie is really part of one "which begins with the Dead Sea, extends down the Red Sea, and ends at Lake Tanganyika"—a view which has been often repeated, but has remained as a hazy speculation until Professor Suess of Vienna recently gave it scientific expression. Turning to a map of the East African lake system, we find that the lakes may be classed under two widely differing types, some rounded in shape, as the Nyanza; others long and narrow, as Tanganyika and the Nyassa; while the description of explorers show us that the shores of the round ones are low and shelving, and

that the long ones lie, like fiords, between high precipitous cliffs. The map shows, also, that these two types of lakes are ranged on a definite plan—the long fiord-like ones occurring on two lines which pass one on either side of the Nyanza and meet at Basso Narok (Lake Rudolph), the line running thence northward (as a strip of low land, dotted with lakes and old lake-basins) to the lower end of the Red Sea, which repeats on a larger scale the structure of the fiord-like lakes. The Gulf of Akaba, at the northern end of the Red Sea, leads to a similar valley or strip of low land, and from this the Dead Sea and the Jordan valley "continue the same type of geographical structure, till it ends on the plains of Syria." Thus, says Mr. Gregory, from the Lebanons almost to the Cape there runs a valley, unique both on account of the persistence with which it maintains its trough-like form, and also from the fact that scattered along its floor is a series of over thirty lakes, only one of which has an outlet to the sea. The question whether portions of this remarkable valley were formed independently and successively, or whether it was all formed at once and by the same process, must be finally answered by geology. History, however, gives some useful hints.

"Along the line the natives have traditions of great changes in the structure of the country. The Arabs tell us that the Red Sea is simply water that did not dry up after Noah's deluge. The Somali say that when their ancestors crossed from Arabia to Africa there was a land connection between the two, across the straits of Bab el Mandeb. The natives of Ujiji, at the southern end of the line, have a folklore that goes back to the time when Lake Tanganyika was formed by the flooding of a fertile plain, rich in cattle and plantations. And at the northern end of the valley we have the accounts of the destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah."

The structure, therefore, of the Rift Valley, as Mr. Gregory conveniently terms it, has very varied interests—geological and geographical, by reason of its connection with the history of the eastern basin of the Mediterranean; and ethnographical, on account of its explanation of some of the best-known stories in our folk-lore. The author suggests that the exploration of this region may possibly furnish some explanatory hints as to certain features in the surface of the moon—the long narrow clefts known as "rills," for instance. "If all the air and water were removed from the earth, then the Rift Valley would present much the same aspect to an inhabitant of the moon that some of the larger of the lunar rills present to us." Mr. Gregory's matterful book is well provided with maps and illustrations.

*THE GREAT RIFT VALLEY: Being the Narrative of a Journey to Mount Kenya and Lake Baringo. By J. W. Gregory, D.Sc. Illustrated. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons.

THE CRUISE OF THE "ANTARCTIC" TO THE SOUTH POLAR REGIONS (1893-1895). By H. J. Bull, a Member of the Expedition. Illustrated. New York: Edward Arnold.

PERSIA REVISITED IN 1895. With Some Remarks on the Present Situation (1896). By General Sir Thomas Edward Gordon, K.C.I.E., C.B., C.S.I. Illustrated. New York: Edward Arnold.

FROM CAIRO TO THE SOUDAN FRONTIER. By H. D. Traill. Chicago: Way & Williams.

NEW WHEELS IN OLD RUTS. A Pilgrimage to Canterbury via the Ancient Pilgrim's Way. By Henry Parr. With Pen-and-Ink Sketches by F. W. R. Adams. Philadelphia: J. B. Lippincott Company.

"The Cruise of the 'Antarctic,'" by Mr. H. J. Bull, tells the story of an expedition, projected and conducted by Mr. Bull, and organized by the Norwegian whaling pioneer, Svend Foyn, to the South Polar Regions. Its primary object was to prove whether the right whale or the sperm whale could be successfully hunted off South Victoria Land; secondarily, or rather incidentally (for the expedition was essentially a private commercial venture), it was proposed to learn more of the mysterious regions to the far south, and if possible to effect a landing on the South Polar Continent itself—which was accomplished, the author and his companions landing at Cape Adare, the eastern extremity of the Continent, on January 24, 1894. The "Antarctic" was a small sailing vessel, with auxiliary steam, of two hundred tons. This small craft had a voyage of fourteen thousand miles before her, before the real work of the expedition could fairly be said to begin. Sailing from Norway in September, 1893, the "Antarctic" touched at Tristan D'Acunha on November 24, made the Kerguelen or Desolation Islands (where six weeks were spent in sealing) on December 19, and reached Melbourne at the end of February, 1894. After a thorough overhaul, the vessel started for the Campbell Islands on a sealing trip, which proved a disastrous one, the "Antarctic" going aground in a gale and sustaining damage which necessitated a return to Melbourne for repairs. In September a start was made for South Victoria Land. The first iceberg (six hundred feet high and several miles in length) was sighted on November 5, but within forty-eight hours from this an accident to the propeller compelled an immediate retreat to Dunedin, seven hundred miles away. Thus nearly a month was lost before the ship again encountered the ice. How she eventually fought her way for five hundred miles through the "pack"; how the leaders were disappointed in their hopes of finding right whales (reported half a century ago by Sir James Ross as abounding in these seas); how the battered little "Antarctic" returned at last to Melbourne, unprofitably "clean," but with all the honors of her successful fight with the long dreaded South Polar ice-belt,—all this, and much more, is graphically told by the author. Commercially, the expedition was a failure; but it had the important negative result (bought at a cost to Norwegians of £5000) of showing that right whaling in Antarctic waters is not a paying venture. To harmonize this result with the reports of Sir James

Ross three suppositions are possible: (1) That Sir James mistook the blue, or finned, whales for right whales; (2) that the right whales have, since his voyage (1840-41), changed their route of migration; or (3) that wholesale capture of right whales since 1840 has reduced their number to an insignificant quantity. The third supposition is accepted by the author as the most plausible one. The direct scientific results of the expedition were rather meagre—as might have been expected, the voyage being primarily a whaling voyage, and there being no one of fair scientific attainments on the vessel. Fortunately, a lichen of some interest to botanists was found growing at Cape Adare. "As it was previously held that no vegetation, even of the lowest order, was possible in the rigorous climate of Antarctica, this interesting lichen has created a great sensation." Sea-weed collected at Cape Adare was also carried to Europe. It may be proved, Mr. Bull thinks, that this sea-weed was actually growing when found; so that "the number of Antarctic botanic species will be doubled—there will be two instead of one." As a tale of adventure the volume will be found very readable. There are a number of illustrations by Mr. Barn Murdoch after photographs taken by the author; and Mr. Wyllie, A.R.A., supplies a clever frontispiece.

The recent political tragedy at the shrine of Shah Abdul Azim, near Tehran, invests General Sir T. E. Gordon's "Persia Revisited" with a certain melancholy timeliness. The author, who was for some years military *attaché* to the British legation at Tehran, revisited Persia last autumn; and the news of the assassination of the Shah, Nasr-ed-Din, was received by him while the present volume, which is mainly the outcome of the autumn journey, was preparing for publication. "I little thought," says General Gordon, "when I had the honor of conversing with the Shah in October last, that it was possible a king so admired and loved by his people, and then looking forward with pride and pleasure to the celebration of his approaching jubilee, should perish in their midst by the hand of an assassin within five days of the event." The Shah's death created a somewhat critical situation in Persia, which the author discusses in two supplementary chapters that throw some timely light on Persian politics and dynastic questions. The bulk of the volume consists of a general survey of the Persia of to-day, duly enlivened with anecdotes and incidents of travel, which enables the

reader to form a fair idea of the economic, industrial, and social status of the country, and of its prospects as a possible future participant in the onward march of progressive nations. It is wrong, the author thinks, to suppose that the Persians are dead to all desire for progress, or that their religion is an effective bar to such desire. The Moullass (priests) are naturally opposed to popular education, in which they plainly see the beginning of the end of their own undoing. As one of them frankly said, "The people will read the Koran for themselves, and what will be left for us to do?" But there has always been much liberty of speech and opinion in Persia. Six hundred years ago Hafiz and Omar Kháyyám freely expressed their contempt of the "meddling Moullass"; while not very long ago, our author notes, the graceless donkey-boys of the great towns would vent their scorn and voice the popular feeling by shouting injuriously, "Br-r-r-o ak-hound!" (Go on, priest!) when they saw a spiritual father ambling along on his donkey. In fine, Persia is advancing, slowly indeed, but not halting, still less sliding back, as some say. The late Shah was a liberal man, and conciliatory and just toward his Christian subjects. Christian missionaries are protected in their work—that is, so long as they do not show what the Moullass might term a "pernicious activity" in proselytizing Mohammedans. The American Presbyterian Mission is the only mission in Tehran; and, says the author, "it carries on its work so smoothly and judiciously that the sensitive susceptibilities of the most fanatical Moullass are never roused nor ruffled. They have succeeded well by never attempting too much." This is true praise. General Gordon's opinion of the present Shah is a favorable one; and there seems to be good reason to believe that under him the equable and fairly enlightened and progressive *régime* of his father will be continued. The author does not omit to tell us something of the nightingale—the pet cage-bird of the Persians, the red rose's Endymion, the bird sung by bards of Shiraz and of Dublin,—for Mr. Moore's bulbul (warbling by the Liffey) is no less tuneful than those that sang "by the calm Bendemeer." The nightingale is the favorite singing-bird of the Persians, the young male birds being captured from the nests when fully fledged, brought up by hand, and then sold in the towns, where there is a brisk demand for them—as General Gordon learned from two small boys engaged in picking roses for the attar-essence manufacture near Yezd.

"The shopkeepers like to have their pet birds by them, and in the nesting season these may be heard all over the bazaars, singing sweetly and longingly for the partners they know of by instinct, but never meet."

The cages are brightly decorated with bits of colored cloth and flowers in season:

"In November I saw quite a dozen cages thus brightened, each with its brisk-looking nightingale occupant, put out in the sunshine in the courtyard; and on asking about such a collection of cages, was told rather shyly, as if fearing a smile at their sentimental ways, that there was an afternoon tea that day in the neighborhood, to which the nightingales and their owners were going."

A tempting little book, whose fair exterior by no means belies its contents, is Mr. H. D. Traill's "From Cairo to the Soudan Frontier." The text is reprinted from the London "Daily Telegraph," and it pretends, says the author, "to no other character than that of a record of impressions derived from a couple of brief tours in Egypt during the winters of 1893-4 and 1895-6." The sketches, if slight in fibre, are very agreeably written, and merit reprinting. Mr. Traill's style savors of literature rather than journalism—though, as a writer for the Conservative press, he finds it incumbent on him to glance casually at past Liberal shortcomings in Egypt, and to "prod" Mr. Gladstone and "Labby" rather spitefully for their share therein. The sixteen chapters—"Life at Sea," "The Streets of Cairo," "Tommy's Egyptian Christmas," "A Theban Race Meeting," "A Raided Village," "A Khedivial Progress," etc.—are studded with striking descriptive passages; for example, the following picture of a dancing dervish at the Mosque of Mohammed Ali in Old Cairo:

"Without any preparation he has stepped quietly into the ring, a thin anemic youth of barely twenty, clad in the sort of long striped *soutane* which these mystics affect. Extending his arms at right angles to his body he begins to twirl, and for five and twenty mortal minutes, by the independent testimony of many watches, he continues to do so. Every now and then, at intervals of about ten minutes, the speed of his revolutions (say, one hundred and fifty times a minute) would slacken, like that of a spent humming-top, and you might have thought he was gradually coming to a halt from exhaustion. But no! At the moment the pace had slowed down almost to stopping point, it would rapidly quicken again to its former pitch. . . . This man has all the air of a genuine mystic. It is impossible to contemplate the countenance of this twirling fanatic, and the contrast of its strange quietude with the ceaseless motion of his body, without being powerfully impressed by it. As the endless gyrations continue the position of the arms is repeatedly varied. Now both are extended at full length; now one is dropped at the side while the other remains stretched out; now one, now both are bent till the tips of the fingers touch the shoulders. But all the time the eyes remain closed and the face wears the same expression of perfect and imper-

turbable calm. . . . The world of sight must long have disappeared from his view; the whizzing universe would be a mere blur upon his retina were he to open his eyes. But does he see nothing beyond it through their closed lids? Has he really twirled himself in imagination to the Gates of Paradise? Are the heavens opening in beatific vision to that human teetotum? After all, why not?"

Why not, indeed? May not the twirling dervish's mode of juggling sense and inducing an agreeable religious exaltation be as potent as another's? Have we of the West so far outgrown the saltatory or Corybantic stage of ritual as to warrant us in flouting the artless devotee who thinks to please his Maker by spinning before him like a teetotum? Mr. Traill's book is rather timely, and should serve to beguile an evening or so very pleasantly.

"New Wheels in Old Ruts" is a humorous account of an up-to-date Canterbury pilgrimage, *via* the ancient pilgrim's way—a deserted track running through the heart of Kent, which is traditionally associated with the historic wayfarers to the shrine of the martyred St. Thomas. In the present case the "pilgrimage forms the summer vacation jaunt of a party of young Londoners (rather of the "Bank Holiday" class, one fancies, judging from their pranks *en route*), who are out for a good time and have it, "doing" the antiquities after the manner of their kind, and beguiling the journey with stories according to the precedent of Chaucer and Erasmus. Oxford, Kemsing, Wrotham, the Stone Circles, Kits Coty House, Boxley, etc., are described, and a route map is furnished for the behoof of future pilgrims. The author's humor recalls Mr. Jerome K. Jerome—that is, it is "Mark Twain" with a little more water. Mr. F. W. R. Adams's pen drawings are occasionally rather funny.

E. G. J.

BAYARD TAYLOR AS A MAN OF LETTERS.*

Mr. Albert H. Smyth, in writing his "Life of Bayard Taylor" for the "American Men of Letters" series, seems to have adopted the suggestion made by Plutarch, in his "Life of Alexander," that it is not always in one's most distinguished achievements that one's vices or virtues are best discerned, but very often in the actions and sayings of one's private life. Mr. Smyth frankly admits that he has not attempted to give a detailed account of Taylor's travels—an account the more unnecessary be-

cause told by Taylor himself in his justly famous books of travel—preferring rather to emphasize his literary history at home. Fortunately, however, in emphasizing the literary life of Taylor the author has avoided becoming at any time either prevailingly over-critical or prevailingly over-eulogistic.

But if Mr. Smyth has avoided the two greatest dangers that confronted him, he has in one instance at least seriously laid himself open to criticism. I refer to the introductory chapter on "Pennsylvania in Literature." The chapter was written, he says, because this is the first biography of a Middle States writer to appear in the "Men of Letters" series; and possibly, too,—although Mr. Smyth does not say this,—because it gave an excellent opportunity to draw attention to the fact that at one time Philadelphia, and not Boston or New York, was commonly called the Athens of America: a prestige which that city enjoyed until about 1820, when, the author thinks, the centre of literary culture passed to New York. Now, undoubtedly this is true; but is it wise to devote even a very short chapter of a biography like this to the parcelling out of literary husks? To anyone who looks closely at the literature produced in America before 1820, its real insignificance must be apparent. Franklin's "Autobiography" and Irving's "Sketch Book" are almost the only books written before this date that are now extensively read; and I am not quite sure that either of these books will take a very high rank among the masterpieces of the world's literatures. But since Franklin was a native of Massachusetts, and Irving a native of New York, Philadelphia can only claim the honor that comes from the former's later residence in that city. That "the Susquehanna flows freely through European literature," or that "nearly every memorable name in our literature confesses some connection with the Philadelphia press," will hardly suffice to immortalize the literature of Pennsylvania, or to restore to that state its former literary prestige. It seems unwise, then, to centre the attention on the literature of any one colony or of any one state, when even at this date that of all America will hardly bear a critical inspection. Finally, since all readers of biographies are impatient of introductions of every sort, one cannot but wish that a carefully written paragraph had been substituted for the eleven pages of this introductory chapter, or that Mr. Smyth had begun his book with the admirable chapter on Taylor's "Early Life."

*BAYARD TAYLOR. By Albert H. Smyth. (American Men of Letters.) Boston: Houghton, Mifflin & Co.

Besides this observation, we cannot make many adverse criticisms of this book. It is true that one occasionally comes across a clause or a sentence with which one is not quite satisfied. The taste, for example, of such expressions as these is questionable: "Their sense of art was apoplexed." "He . . . found himself three thousand dollars to the good," etc.; and of such a figure as this: "In like manner Bayard Taylor . . . drove his 'new tandem'—prose by day and poetry by night—smoothly and well, and with glad content." There are likewise two criticisms from which we should like to differ. It is certainly too much to say that Taylor died "with more unfulfilled renown and unaccomplished growth within him than any other man in American letters," although one accepts unqualifiedly the first part of Mr. Smyth's statement, that "the really great things of which he was capable were still before him when he died." Furthermore, it seems hardly sane to say of Taylor: "It appears that other poets of America have surpassed him in parts, but that no one has equalled him in all."

Putting aside faults like these, which are few and trifling when compared with the many and important merits of the book, Mr. Smyth's "Life of Taylor" must take a very high place in this truly admirable series. It is a lucid and vivid record, told for the most part in the author's own language, which not only shows Taylor's connection with the environing life that did so much to mould his character, and which was in turn, and to no small degree, influenced by his healthful and vigorous career, but also reveals in a remarkable way those "inward springs and relations of his character" with which Carlyle said every biographer ought to acquaint the public. It gives much of the literary, and something even of the political, history of the period in which Taylor lived. On finishing the book one has a distinct impression that he has been in the presence of the very man of whom Berthold Auerback said: "He was born in the New World, but ripened in the Old."

TULEY FRANCIS HUNTINGTON.

EDMOND DE GONCOURT was born in Nancy, May 26, 1822, and died in Paris on the sixteenth of last month. In collaboration with his brother Jules (who died in 1870), he produced a number of naturalistic novels and many historical studies of the eighteenth century. The brothers also did much to interpret Japanese art to the European world. The "Journal des Goncourt," is one of the most remarkable examples of reminiscent literature in existence.

EXPLORATIONS AND PROBLEMS IN THE GREENLAND ICEFIELDS.*

The literature on Greenland is gradually becoming voluminous. Each of the many Arctic expeditions and explorers has made a report, and some of the Danish officials resident in Greenland have taken the pains to write up the land and its people. The work on "Greenland Icefields, and Life in the North Atlantic," by Professor G. Frederick Wright and Warren Upham, so far as it pertains to Greenland, is to be looked on as a sort of summary of that which has heretofore appeared in English, with a few chapters based on the observations of the senior author, who, as a passenger on the ill-fated "Miranda," in 1894, spent about two weeks on the coast of Greenland, in the vicinity of Sukkertoppen.

Professor Wright's account of his experience, and especially the account of his contact with the people, is racy, and gives many an interesting glimpse of life in Danish Greenland; but when the author extends his remarks on the people to the inhabitants of the island in general, he falls into the errors of some of his predecessors on whom he was dependent for information. The volume conveys the impression that the inhabitants of North Greenland and Danish Greenland are pretty much the same, though the former are probably the only Eskimos of the island whose blood is unmixed with that of Europeans. Not only this, but the conditions of life in North Greenland are so unlike those in that part of the country over which Denmark holds sway, that a hasty visit to the latter gives no accurate idea of the former.

Some of the erroneous ideas which have heretofore been current have been given, it is to be feared, a new lease of life by their republication in this work. Thus, it is stated (p. 144) that the houses of the North Greenlanders are built of snow, while as a matter of fact their summer dwellings (*tupiks*) are skin tents, and their winter dwellings (*igloos*) are usually of stone. Lack of familiarity with the matters discussed is again made evident when Professor Wright states (p. 153) that guns are said to be of no avail in hunting the walrus. This reads strangely to one who within a few months has seen about forty of these animals killed with these weapons of "no avail."

The junior author—whose name, strangely

* GREENLAND ICEFIELDS, AND LIFE IN THE NORTH ATLANTIC. By G. Frederick Wright and Warren Upham. New York: D. Appleton & Co.

enough, does not appear on the cover of the volume, though nearly half of it, and much the weightier half, is from his pen—has never been to Greenland. His contribution to the volume consists of a discussion of the flora (living and fossil) and fauna of Greenland, of a summary of the various explorations of the inland ice, and of a general discussion of the glacial period and of those things which, in his judgment, were connected with it.

Mr. Upham has rendered a service to the student of Greenland by presenting a readable digest of the reports which have been made from time to time by explorers of the inland ice. It is convenient, too, to have so readable a summary of previous publications on the plants and animals of the island, though some of the author's speculations as to the meaning of the facts may not meet with the general approval of biologists.

Apart from the criticisms that may be made on the subject-matter presented by Mr. Upham, two general criticisms apply to his part of the volume. In the first place, it is partisan; and in the second, it is pervaded by a tone of finality which comports strangely with the unsettled condition of the problems discussed. A striking instance of the latter point is the following:

"Near the end of the latest Tertiary period, or more probably well forward in the Quaternary era, almost to the epoch where the increasing uplift of the northern countries brought on the Ice Age, men, having been created through evolution from the anthropoid apes, spread outward from their native tropical portion of the old world, to all parts of the great land areas of that hemisphere and to America" (pp. 215-6).

This, it will be seen on analysis, is a very meaty sentence. No less than four momentous questions seem to be settled by it: (1) an important question in geological chronology; (2) the cause of the ice age; (3) the ancestry of man; and (4) the place of his origin. As a matter of fact, geologists have never agreed to a classification of time which allows the Quaternary era to be well advanced before the beginning of the ice age; nor have they agreed that the elevation of northern lands was the cause of the glacial period, while some of those best qualified to judge of this hypothesis regard it as about the weakest of all the attempted explanations of the ice period. Evolutionists have long suspected that the ancestors of the human race had more resemblance to anthropoid apes than to any other living animals, but the boldest of them would hardly have ventured so unqualified a statement; while those who are fond of having things settled, with or without

adequate basis, will read with pleasure that the scene of this transformation from anthropoid to man has been finally determined.

So far as concerns the criticism of partisanship, it should be stated that Mr. Upham holds views concerning the glacial period and its phenomena which seem very singular to those who hold different views. In the chapters before us, he is plainly trying to make a case, though it is often clear that the effort is unconscious. In order to make his case, he does what partisans commonly do—he sometimes ignores facts that do not serve his purpose, and especially those that are incompatible with it; he sometimes states them in such a way that they seem to lose their force; and sometimes, apparently for the sake of making his point, he puts interpretations upon them which they will not bear. As an illustration of a forced interpretation to fit an hypothesis, a single instance may be cited. Mr. Upham has long held what many believe to be an exaggerated idea of the amount of debris carried by glacier ice up in its mass. Professor Chamberlin found the ends of certain North Greenland glaciers to be from a hundred to two hundred feet thick, and the lower third or half of the ice well charged with debris. From this Mr. Upham infers (p. 308) that the same ratio would hold in the great ice-cap, which might then be filled with debris from a thousand to two thousand feet above its base. Thus, from the facts given by Chamberlin, Mr. Upham finds confirmation of one of his pet doctrines. But the inference is unwarranted. Indeed, all the phenomena open to observation in North Greenland, and physical considerations as well, point to a different conclusion. The sides and ends of the North Greenland glaciers present vertical faces on a magnificent scale, and these vertical faces often affect the sides of the glaciers several miles above their ends, so that the full section of the ice may be seen, both at the end of a glacier, where the ice is relatively thin, and further up the valley, where it is relatively thick. Passing up the valleys, these lateral sections of the ice show that the debris-bearing stratum at the base of a glacier does not thicken at the same rate, or at anything like the same rate, that the ice does. Indeed, it frequently does not thicken at all with the increasing thickness of the ice, and in some cases is actually thickest at the extreme end of the glacier. Professor Chamberlin's facts do not support Mr. Upham's hypothesis, and should not be forced into such uncongenial service. Professor Chamberlin might have said,

with equal truth, that the ends of some of the North Greenland glaciers are from fifty to a hundred feet thick, and full of debris from bottom to top, and that their surfaces, at the ends, are sometimes well laden with debris besides. From this statement, by the same logic, Mr. Upham might have inferred that the whole ice-sheet of Greenland, to its very top, is charged with debris, and that in addition its surface is covered with it. Thus he would have had confirmation of another of the doctrines he has persistently advocated for many years, namely, that the ice-sheets of the past carried a large amount of drift on their upper surfaces.

Mr. Upham is an advocate of the doctrine that the glacial period consisted of a single epoch, though he recognizes the fact that there were more or less considerable advances and recessions of the ice during this epoch. Others believe that these several advances, considered in connection with the inter-current recessions, were of such extent as to divide the glacial period into distinct epochs. Mr. Upham has not concealed his desire to minimize the distinctions between the several stages which many others regard as separate epochs, and in this connection we find an illustration of a statement of fact in such a way that it seems to have little significance. Thus he says (p. 354) that between the first two principal stages of the glacial period thus far recognized "the maximum retreat" of the ice was, in New Jersey, "25 miles or more"; all of which is true enough, but it is a good deal like saying that "the maximum age of the earth is a thousand years or more," when every geologist believes it to be many millions.

This is not the place for a consideration of the technical objections to the hypotheses which Mr. Upham advocates, or of the evidence on which they rest. He has given much attention to glacial geology, and his views are entitled to respect. But the reader of the volume should know that the views there set forth do not represent the views of the majority of specialists in this field. One does not need to be a geologist to see some of the difficulties and inconsistencies in which Mr. Upham involves himself in his account of "*Pleistocene changes of level*," in connection with his advocacy of the hypothesis of northerly elevation as the explanation of the glacial period; for while he maintains that it was the uplift of northerly lands that brought on the glacial period, he supposes these same lands to have been much higher at an earlier time, without inducing an age of ice.

Indeed, this earlier and greater elevation, if we understand Mr. Upham correctly, is supposed to have been at a time when the climate was notably mild!

Without going into details, the reader is warned that the time-relations of the various uplifts and subsidences which have doubtless affected the North American continent in the past, to the glacial period, have not been made out with any considerable degree of certainty. This is a problem the solution of which belongs to the future.

Mr. Upham seems to us not to do justice to alternative hypotheses as to the cause of the glacial period, and he still clings to the idea that the great ice-sheet of the glacial period finally caused its own dissolution, by sinking the land beneath it; although the apparently irrefragable argument against this doctrine has never been met.

The chapter on the stages of the ice age can hardly hope to meet with favor among geologists. Old terms—*e. g.*, Champlain—are used in new ways, and in ways that are sure to lead to confusion. Classification is pushed to an extreme which existing knowledge hardly seems to warrant; and while Mr. Upham's ideas on this point are of interest to geologists, who will not misunderstand them, it seems unfortunate that they should have been put forward in a volume not intended, as we infer, for specialists.

In spite of all these criticisms, the book has merit, and will interest various classes of readers.

ROLLIN D. SALISBURY.

RECENT NEW TESTAMENT LITERATURE.*

Two distinct characteristics mark modern scientific study of the Scriptures. The exegete is not only to be a philologist, but he is also to be a critic and an historian. To a considerable degree, of course,

* A CRITICAL AND EXEGETICAL COMMENTARY ON THE EPISTLE TO THE ROMANS. By the Rev. Wm. Sanday, D.D., LL.D., Lady Margaret Professor of Divinity, and Canon of Christ Church, Oxford; and the Rev. Arthur C. Headlam, B.D., Fellow of All Souls College, Oxford. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons.

A COMMENTARY ON THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO ST. MARK. By the Rev. Ezra P. Gould, S.T.D. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons.

THE RECORDS AND LETTERS OF THE APOSTOLIC AGE. The New Testament Acts, Epistles, and Revelations, in the Version of 1881, arranged for Historical Study. By Ernest DeWitt Burton, Professor of New Testament Literature in the University of Chicago. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons.

SAINT PAUL THE TRAVELLER AND THE ROMAN CITIZEN. By W. M. Ramsay, D.C.L., LL.D. New York: G. P. Putnam's Sons.

these three functions are mutually involved; but within recent years the especial emphasis has been laid upon the determination of the text, the integrity and the historical setting of the New Testament literature. There have been numberless works that have dealt specifically either with history or criticism, but few that have attempted from a distinctly modern point of view the application of both to interpretation.

If we except Bishop Lightfoot, there is no man among English scholars who has done more for the constructive side of critical scholarship than Professor Sanday. His works upon patristic literature and upon inspiration have been universally recognized as of the utmost value. Of all men, he is the best fitted to prepare a commentary upon the Epistle to the Romans,—the one work in the New Testament demanding preëminently a judicial mind, critical insight, logical intuition, and an historical sense. It is therefore with peculiar satisfaction that we welcome, as the first instalment on the New Testament side of the "International Critical Commentaries," the work by Professors Sanday and Headlam. For such a work, the preface is remarkably modest: to judge from their own language, one would suppose the only excuse for the new volume was the need of completing this series of commentaries. But the reader is inclined to be more appreciative. The merits of this work may be said to be, in addition to independent scholarship and encyclopædic acquaintance with the literature, the recognition of the Jewish training of Paul as a modifying force in the formulation of his theology; the attempt to interpret the Epistle from a standpoint, not of to-day's theological questions, but from that of the theological conditions of the first century; and, finally, the attempt to construct an exegetical background by the use of that mine of information, the Jewish Apocrypha.

As far as exegetical processes are concerned, the work is of singular excellence. Not only does it have the orderly arrangement that pedagogical experience enforced, but the perspective in the relative importance of the questions discussed is well preserved by the mechanical make-up of the work. It is, of course, impossible to discuss all the exegetical positions taken by the authors, but attention should at least be called to the philological discussions of such terms as "son of God," justification, law, and that *crux* of all interpreters, Romans 3:25. It is gratifying to find so distinct a recognition as that given in the note upon the Doctrine of Mystical Union with Christ (p. 162) of that central teaching of Paul which Matthew Arnold, and even such an anti-ecclesiastical writer as Thomas Hild Green, have done so much to clarify and enforce; the former in his "St. Paul and Protestantism," and the latter in the long sermon so well known at second hand to readers of "Robert Elsmere." But, after all, the significance of the book lies largely in its profoundly conservative temper and tendency. A commentary is not a treatise on systematic theol-

ogy, but it is to-day far more symptomatic of the direction in which critical biblical thought is setting. It is, therefore, a phenomenon that cannot fail to be noticed by one familiar with New Testament scholarship, that the evangelical tendency so strong in the work of a conservative and at times apologetic scholar like Sanday, is also perceptible in contemporary German thought, especially in such men as Beyschlag, Wendt, and, in certain particulars, Loofs. In matters not purely dogmatic there are also to be seen evidences of a conservative reaction in Stilgenfeld, Harnack, Krüger, and Julicher. It is, indeed, not too much to say that, notwithstanding many unessentials are being rejected and many essentials are being redescribed, the centre of Christianity is being increasingly felt to be the work and character of its Founder. At any rate, it is certainly true that the constructive purpose so dominant in this output of the critical theologian is in keeping with the new positive method that is now prevalent among New Testament scholars.

A commentary on one of the Gospels, and especially upon Mark, calls for special critical attainments. The time has long since passed in Germany when the commentator would think of neglecting the modern theories of the relations and origins of the synoptic accounts. And yet, until Professor Gould's work on "The Gospel According to St. Mark" appeared, English and American scholars had been content with separate works upon the higher criticism of the gospels and with the type of commentary in vogue a couple of generations ago. It is true that the various English translations of German writers—notably those of Weiss and Meyer—partially atoned for the lack, but none the less the absence of such works was not creditable to our biblical scholarship. It is therefore with special interest that one examines the work of Professor Gould.

We are inclined to believe that as far as textual criticism and well-balanced exegesis is concerned this commentary will rank with the best of those of the moderate critical school. Professor Gould has shown not only a painstaking scholarship, but also a gratifying readiness to restrict his opinions to his data. Accordingly, his exposition of the text is singularly free from bias, and, in general, such as must commend itself to other students. We miss, indeed, the wealth of scholarship shown by Professor Sanday, but the gospel does not so naturally suggest studies of special topics. And even if one is inclined at times to question certain points (as the translation of the aorist 14:41 and the account of Judas 14:44), it cannot be denied that in general the interpretation is admirably done.

It is to be regretted that we cannot express quite the same satisfaction with the higher criticism of the work, and especially with the author's handling of the synoptic problem. Professor Gould accepts naturally the two-source theory of the synoptics, but he is not especially concerned with the bearing of such a position upon the interpretation of the gos-

pel. In fact, although we hesitate to say it, not only is the critical introduction disappointing, but the author's theory as to success seems superimposed upon an already prepared exegesis. This is by no means what we should expect in a critical commentary. Especially after the work of Wendt it is surprising to find so little appreciation of the possibility of a predominately topical and so unchronological order in Mark, and utter silence as to the theory of a double apocalypse in chapter 13. Then, too, it certainly would be expected that there would have been more attention given to relations of the synoptic with the Johannian account of the Passion Week. Is it altogether impossible that Mark's account of the events of that week is derived from another than the Petrine source? And in other cases one cannot but feel disappointed that Professor Gould should not have given to the higher criticism the same attention and independent judgment he has bestowed upon the text. An example of what he is capable of is to be seen in his discussion of the Appendix to the gospel.

Yet taken altogether, although hardly to be classed with the works of Professors Sanday and Headlam, this volume is sure to be ranked as among the best commentaries upon the second gospel—if indeed it be not counted the best commentary on Mark written in English.

Closely in line with the spirit indicated in the work of Professors Sanday and Headlam is the little volume on "The Records and Letters of the Apostolic Age," by Professor Burton, whose similar volume, prepared in conjunction with Professor Stevens of Rochester, on "The Life of Christ," is well known. The purpose of the present work is to treat the Acts and the Epistles of the New Testament as so many historical documents which may be arranged on a reasonable chronological basis, and so furnish data for the historical student. Passages dealing with the same historical circumstances are arranged in parallel columns, whether they come from the Acts or from some epistle; while the different epistles are introduced into the harmony thus formed at such points as correspond approximately to the time in which they were written. In such an arrangement there must be, of course, certain presuppositions in regard to the chronology of the apostolic age. Such points as require detailed mention are discussed in a series of admirable notes, introduced as an appendix to the volume. In these notes we have an impartial discussion of the various chronological arrangements advanced, with literature and such conclusions as seem warranted by the evidence. Special students of the New Testament will perhaps be interested in Professor Burton's adoption of the South Galatian theory, and his assigning the time of the composition of the Letter to the Galatians to the period which intervened during the time between Paul's second and third missionary tours. Thanks to the discussion inaugurated by Ramsay's "Church in the Roman Empire," this position seems now fairly on its way to dis-

place the view so long held by virtue of the arguments of Lightfoot. On historical and geographical rather than purely literary grounds, this view (which by the way is by no means new) seems certainly the more tenable.

In a work intended for popular use, it would not be perhaps altogether wise to introduce critical discussion in regard to the composition of the book of Acts; and yet we cannot help wishing that the author had seen best to add a note upon the various theories as to the sources of that work. Just at present, the Acts is especially under investigation; and it is not altogether impossible that even the unprofessional biblical student would get new light from the presentation of possible sources of the work. For after all, the work of a New Testament book, like that of any historical work, rises and falls with the worth of the sources whence its author drew his information. But this, of course, is a matter which by no means affects the value of the book for the work which it was intended to perform as a sort of harmony of the Acts and the Epistles.

The criticism of Acts is just at present among the most vital matters in New Testament study. The older view which accepted it as of coördinate historicity with the Pauline epistles has gradually lost its hold upon scholars, and the tendency has been to regard it with Clemens as composed of various bits of information which have been grouped together and subjected to various redactions, or, with Spitta, to regard it as a combination of two main sources, one of which is soberly historical and the other is almost entirely legendary and untrustworthy. And yet there is also a tendency on the part of certain scholars just at present to treat this remarkable book with somewhat greater respect. Weizsäcker, for instance, although often questioning the book's historical accuracy, and always ready to discover contradictions between it and the statements of Paul, nevertheless discovers many elements which he regards as genuinely historical. But the protagonist of the defenders of the book's historicity is the indefatigable Professor of Humanity in Aberdeen. In a certain way, Professor Ramsay, author of "St. Paul the Traveller and the Roman Citizen," is doing for Acts what Professor Sayce claims to be doing (one can hardly say more) for the Pentateuch. But because of his archaeological knowledge, he has not so far swung away from literary criticism as not to be convinced of the existence of sources older than the book itself, and of the existence of other elements in the book which are younger than a larger part of the book as it now stands. Thus, the succession of remarkable incidents allotted to Paul's stay in Ephesus (Acts, 19:11-20), the story of Judas Iscariot, the account of Annanias and Saphira, the speaking with tongues, are regarded by Professor Ramsay as popular stories which have somehow crept into an otherwise thoroughly trustworthy historical work.

Of the latter fact, Professor Ramsay is beyond suspicion. It is, indeed, delightful to watch his de-

votion to the historical skill of Luke, about whose authorship of the Acts he is equally without shadow of doubt. It may be that this devotion is the zeal of a new convert, for Professor Ramsay declares that formerly he held to the views of the Tübingen school, from which his archaeological investigations turned him. But be that as it may, he finds in the Acts the characteristics which belong to the first grade of historical works, at the head of which stand the histories of Thucydides. "Every minute fact stated in Acts has its own significance." There can be no possibility of contradiction between Luke and the Epistles; and, indeed, the ingenuity with which Professor Ramsay overturns apparent difficulties, or makes them serve the purpose of harmonization, is truly marvellous. It is, of course, not altogether a novelty to identify Paul's second visit to Jerusalem, mentioned in the Epistle to the Galatians, with the second visit mentioned in Acts; but everyone had supposed that the question had been finally settled by Lightfoot in favor of the contrary view. But then, so too had everyone thought that the question as to the location of the Galatian churches had been answered by the same great authority. Professor Ramsay, although admiring Lightfoot, finds plenty of opportunities to differ with him, and does not hesitate to charge him, so far as this question is concerned, with having "led English scholarship into a *cul de sac*" (p. 6). Having with considerable success attacked the traditional theory as to Galatia, he now with equal enthusiasm establishes not only the possibility but the certainty of the identity of the second visit of the Galatians letter with the visit of Paul and Barnabas to Jerusalem at the time of the famine. It must be confessed that his assurance is not altogether unjustified. In fact, the more one considers his position and works upon Paul's own words in the Epistle to the Galatians, the more one is tempted to agree with it. It would be remarkable if for a second time an untheological scholar, as Professor Ramsay claims to be, should thus again reverse a supposed unquestionable opinion.

It is worth noticing that Professor Ramsay, while holding to unity of authorship in the work, discovers within it traces of a variety of sources. Chief among these sources is the "travel document" which embraces practically the second half of Acts. This again is not altogether homogeneous, but embraces Luke's diary, notes of conversations with Paul, and possibly other matters. As to the first half of Acts, the author's opinion is somewhat cloudy. He regards it as inferior, decidedly inferior, to the second half; but although admitting the possibility of various legendary elements in it, nevertheless is inclined to regard it as essentially the work of the author of the "travel document" who here was forced to use sources of varying value. Here again Professor Ramsay seems upon solid critical ground.

Various questions, however, suggest themselves,—less, it is true, in regard to the general positions of the book than in regard to certain incidental points. Especially do we hesitate to follow Profes-

sor Ramsay altogether in his use of the Codex Bezae. In this work, as in his previous book upon the Church and the Empire, Professor Ramsay uses this codex constantly to establish or illustrate (mainly, it is true, correctly) the point of view of the second century, as contrasted with that of Acts. But sometimes the Acts seem to be given a too prominent position, and its text to be rather arbitrarily regarded as superior to that of the three great MSS. And then, too, one would like the author's authority for his characterization of the Jews at Corinth as a self-administering community (p. 259), and for his certainty that sacrifices before the gates at Lystra are improbable (p. 119). Further, the book as a literary product is very uneven. Some points are altogether omitted which we should expect to be treated, while others are discussed most exhaustively. The author's style is fortunately vivacious and reasonably clear, but one could wish that the work had been undertaken somewhat more systematically and somewhat less from the purely apologetic point of view.

And yet as a whole this book bears out the promise of "The Church in the Roman Empire." What we now ask of Professor Ramsay is, that instead of re-casting semi-popular lectures, he shall give us as technical and systematic a study of the apostolic age in the light of archaeology as is his "Historical Geography of Asia Minor." It is high time for an English or American scholar to produce a work upon this key to the New Testament history, which shall rank with the volumes of Clemen and Spitta in critical acumen, and at the same time shall surpass them in historical learning.

SHAILER MATHEWS.

BRIEFS ON NEW BOOKS.

Vernon Lee's
latest volume.

It is now sixteen years since the appearance of "Studies of the Eighteenth Century in Italy," a book which excited much interest and admiration in the English and Italian critical journals. In that time, the lady who writes under the name of Vernon Lee has become a figure in the world of art and letters, as distinct, if not as widely known, as Mr. Pater or Mr. Symonds. Her work is mainly critical, and of high value. Although most familiar with painting and music, and almost always finding her subjects in Italian art, chiefly of the Renaissance, her interests are by no means confined, but reach out into general æsthetic inquiry, and more widely into questions on the conduct of life. In "Baldwin" and "Althea," dealing with aspirations and duties, she seemed farthest from home; in "Belcaro" and "Juvenilia" she is perhaps of most general interest. Her latest volume, "Renaissance Fancies and Studies" (Putnam), like "Euphorion," is more especially directed to something of a critical treatment of a definite artistic and historical period. Rarely, however, does Vernon Lee discuss any work of art

or any artistic development for itself alone; and in this book, although the separate subjects are not mere points of departure for more theoretic discussion, there is never lacking the breadth of view and the general bearing on men and things which makes the author something more than an art-critic. As a historian of art, as one who seeks to render the temper of the Italian Renaissance in a scientific reproduction, Vernon Lee may not be as successful as some other writers. But as a criticism of a most interesting part of human development, her work cannot be neglected. She has been called a follower of Mr. Pater or Mr. Ruskin; but although her interests have probably taken certain channels in result of those men's writing, she is by no means a continuer of the work of either. Vernon Lee is a clearly-cut and independent personality, and her works are original contributions, to our thinking, on the subjects which she handles. Those who have followed her earlier work know with each new volume what excellences they may expect and what drawbacks they must encounter. This present volume is hardly one of her best; there is a good deal of the quality which has made her later writing difficult to enjoy. Still, "The Valedictory" and "The Love of the Saints" will be read with great interest by those who have followed her work so far; and although the book as a whole will not be remembered like "Euphorion," of which it is a sort of sequel, it is one which readers of art-criticism will desire to know and think over.

Sixteen volumes
of Wordsworth.

Professor William Knight is a faithful Wordsworthian, although not exactly a brilliant exponent of his favorite poet, and is probably the most competent man living to prepare a definitive edition of Wordsworth. The work is now well under way, and four volumes have already been received by us. They are volumes of the "Eversley" series (Macmillan), so acceptable in every mechanical way, and already associated with so many of the greatest names in nineteenth century English literature. Professor Knight's eleven-volume Wordsworth (1882-1889) has heretofore been the standard library edition of the poet, but the editor takes care to inform us that the present edition is by no means to be a mere reproduction of the earlier one. We summarize his statement of the features to be embodied in the sixteen volumes to which the new work will extend. The arrangement of the poems is to be chronological in the order of composition, not of publication. Wordsworth's own changes of text, in successive editions, are given in foot-notes, as well as other changes suggested by the poet, but never put into print by him. The notes dictated by Wordsworth to Miss Isabella Fenwick are reprinted in full, and topographical notes are also supplied. Poems not published during Wordsworth's life, a bibliography of works and editions, and a life of the poet, are supplied. Thus far, the new edition corresponds with the earlier eleven-volume work. The new features are sub-

stantially as follows: The notes are better classified, and carefully distinguished as to authorship. All the prose works, as collected by Dr. Grosart, are given, and will occupy two volumes, following the eight devoted to the poems. The greater part of Dorothy Wordsworth's journals will be printed, filling two volumes. The correspondence, in three volumes, will be arranged chronologically, and will include much new material. The bibliography will be greatly expanded. The life, owing to the elimination of the letters, will be confined to a single volume, the sixteenth and last of the edition. The illustrations are to be a portrait and a vignette for each volume. This brief description will indicate the thorough and painstaking character of the work with which the editor is now crowning his lifelong Wordsworthian labors, and will show to the student how indispensable the new edition must become to him, however well he be supplied with earlier ones.

Experiments in
English criticism.

The leading French critics who contribute literary *causeries* or *feuilletons* to the newspapers collect their matter into volumes about as fast as it accumulates, a fact which makes it possible for the student of contemporary criticism to stock his library more largely from French sources than from any other. Indeed, one would miss sadly the many volumes of this sort of work that bear the names of such men as Gautier, M. Francisque Sarcey, M. Jules Lemaitre, and M. Anatole France. The practice of these men would be worth imitation in England and America if—a significant proviso—we had a similar body of entertaining and well-equipped critical writers. Perhaps the only way to find out whether we have them is to try the experiment on a considerable scale. But we doubt if Mr. Richard Le Gallienne was exactly the person to begin. His two volumes of "Retrospective Reviews" (Dodd), taken from the English newspapers to which he has contributed current criticism for the past five years, cover the most important works in *belles-lettres* that have appeared during that period, but are not distinguished for either profundity or scholarship. Mr. Le Gallienne is preëminently a phrase-maker, and is often deluded by the ring of the verbal counters that he has coined. He says a good many graceful things, and also not a few foolish and bumptious things. Altogether, his volumes hardly seem to have been worth making. Mr. A. T. Quiller-Couch's "Adventures in Criticism" (Scribner), which is also a collection of reprinted reviews, has decidedly more value than the work already discussed, although in the very first chapter we come upon the Philistine notion that Chaucer should be read with the pronunciation of the nineteenth century, and this pronouncement is not unmatched by others equally depressing scattered throughout the pages. But Mr. Quiller-Couch is, after all, a highly interesting personality, which can hardly be said of Mr. Le Gallienne, and his criticism is touched here and there, as his fiction is, with something much like genius.

Of course, the criticism is of the subjective sort, but that is also true of the French criticism alluded to at the beginning of this notice. At any rate, it is literature, in its fashion, and needs no further excuse for being.

*The latest of
Mr. Beardsley.*

The chief present interest in the recent edition of "The Rape of the Lock" (imported by J. B. Lippincott Co.) lies presumably in the illustrations of Aubrey Beardsley. Without some such help, it is to be feared that Pope's famous poem would hardly come to much of a market nowadays. It is interesting to think what will be the case a hundred years from now. Will Aubrey Beardsley continue to support Pope, or —? Still, Mr. Beardsley's drawings are interesting; these particular ones not less so because they are rather different from those that we have heretofore considered characteristic. Compare, if you will, the portrait of himself, of a year or so ago, with Belinda reading the *billet-doux* in the present volume. Or, better, compare "The Toilette of Salome" with "The Toilet" of Belinda. In each case we have a woman, a maid, and a toilet-table. The composition is rather different, but the chief difference is in the manner. Instead of the broad indications, the striking combinations of black and white, the management of large masses, we have painstaking attempts at drawing, judicious use of contemporary local color, and careful efforts at the rendering of materials. Indeed, this last seems to be the chief effort. The rendering of lace and velvet, of woodwork and tapestry, these are the artistic triumphs. Mr. Beardsley calls his work embroidery; and so it is. There are, however, some things even above embroidery; the glimpse of the garden from the windows of Hampton Court, the bit of river bank on the Thames, these are rather more charming than anything else that we remember of Mr. Beardsley's. Least successful of all the pictures is "The Cave of Spleen," where he seems to return to older ideas, without the older simplicity. Mr. Beardsley's early work marked an epoch, or rather was an epoch — an epoch which is now perhaps farther from us than the age of Queen Anne. Wisely, then, does the artist disdain the artifices of ancient history, and proceeds with the times to develop as genius directs.

*French views
of Germany.*

The overwhelming difficulties in which France found herself after the catastrophe of 1870, the three-fold necessity of reestablishing a permanent government out of warring parties and factions, of paying the enormous indemnity exacted by Germany with the design of crippling her exhausted rival, and of recovering her position in European politics, are all clearly indicated in the recent work by the Duke de Broglie, "An Ambassador of the Vanquished" (Macmillan). While this is in form an account of the Viscount de Gontaut-Biron's mission to Berlin, 1871-77, it is in fact a discussion of the relations

between Germany and France during that time. Like its companion volume recently reviewed in these columns, Count Benedetti's "Studies in Diplomacy," it makes imperious Prince Bismarck its central figure, and presents him as a malignant plotter against poor France, ready to see in every sign of returning strength, and in innocent measures of reconstruction, only a burning desire and purpose of revenge. It is hardly to be expected that a public man of the war and reconstruction period can judge Bismarck justly; and it cannot be denied that there is too much of truth in some of the French charges against him. Though he is one of the greatest statesmen of the century, if not the greatest, his career has showed too much of the bully and of the unscrupulous schemer to be wholly admired. The Duke de Broglie writes with much more of calm self-possession than Count Benedetti, whose grievance and passion were too evident, and the Duke's work consequently makes a stronger impression than the Count's hot invective. The liberation of the territory from German troops, the fall of Thiers, the failure of the scheme to restore the Monarchy, the *Kulturkampf*, the Eastern Question, and the final establishment of the Republic, with the negotiations and crises that attended these developments, are the leading topics of the work.

*College work in
rhetorical criticism.*

When Minto's "Manual of English Prose" was published, a great step was made in that rhetorical criticism of good authors which has of late had a considerable place in the English work of our American colleges. That book supplied a definite method based upon a very generally accepted rhetorical analysis, and thereby rendered far more common the useful inter-play of rhetorical teaching and criticism of literature. The idea was emphasized that one cannot learn to write by writing only, but that one must read carefully as well. In the last decade much work of this kind has been done, but usually by individual teachers, or else in one or another of the many editions of particular texts recently published. We have now, in "Studies in Structure and Style," by Mr. W. T. Brewster (Macmillan), a book which, although it has not the scope of Mr. Minto's, either in subject-matter or in method, has, in its more limited sphere, great excellence. It offers seven essays by recent masters of English prose, and a criticism upon each, both as to structure and as to style; and thus it shows the way in which such work is done, and how it may be done with other authors. Its method lacks something in system, but gains as much in its particular applications. The study of structure is rather better than that of style; the subject is more easily handled. But both parts are the result of sound and careful study, and will give the teacher many ideas and the student new insight into the possibilities of prose. The book not only shows what good work in English has been done so far in our colleges, but renders possible more of the same character.

Essays by
Mr. Mabie.

The essay seems hardly one of the staple literary forms nowadays, unless explained by something special in treatment or thesis, something authoritative in the point of view. Mr. Hamilton Wright Mabie justifies his "Essays on Nature and Culture" (Dodd) by the particular quality of sincerity. To him, Nature is what she was in the poetic childhood of the race, and what he believes she will "some day become in the vision of science—a sublime analogy of the growth of man." Art and science are not strange words in his pages, but they are subservient; the arts are comprehended in the art of living, and the sciences, over and above their material phenomena, are only making toward a finer faith in the ultimate wisdom of it all. The dedicatees of the volume, it is to be noted, is Mr. John Burroughs, for whom Mr. Mabie would hardly have concerned himself to collect evidences of what is evil or unadmirable in nature. Instead, the wonder of the growth of trees, the unfolding of flowers, are still miracles to teach the illimitable prophecies of the world, the "unfolding of all the possibilities of the spirit," which is culture. Forty years ago, in this country, this book would have been written very differently, or not at all; to-day it multiplies initiative and corrective influences among people who only need their own impulses re-worded to be wakened into better things. The style now and then seems to grow impersonal, like a sermon, and just a bit rhetorical; but that may well be because it moves on so high a plane.

More French
impressions
of America.

Of the making of French books on America, there has been no end since "Max O'Rell" set the pace for his compatriots with his "Brother Jonathan." So far as our experience goes, he who has read "Brother Jonathan" has virtually read the rest; for the rest mainly ring the changes on their original. One is merely more or less smart, flippant, ejaculatory, or patronizing (and the spectacle of one small Frenchman patronizing this country rather recalls Mrs. Partington's adventure with the Atlantic), than the other; and that is all. The latest Gaul to point his quill at us and favor us with his airy patronage is M. S. C. de Soissons, author of "A Parisian in America" (Estes & Lauriat). From this book one gets the impression that M. de Soissons is extremely well satisfied with himself and pretty well satisfied with us. He treats us kindly, on the whole—though with that "certain condescension" which we have long ceased to be truly thankful for, and which we have known to bring more than one usually sane citizen to the verge of Jingoism for the time being. Our national good-humor (despite Mr. Lodge and his friends) is proverbial, and Mr. Bryce has made much of it; but no democratically-minded man can stand being patronized. Better abuse than condescension; better the undisguised vinegar of downright Mrs. Trollope, than the treacle of, say, Sir Edwin Arnold. M. de Soissons discusses our mil-

lionaires, newspapers, art, architecture, literature, music, the World's Fair, the American woman (she is, he says, "not only *fin-de-siècle*, but even more than that—*fin-de-globe*!") in a sprightly, chatty way, and his book may be pronounced a favorable specimen of its class.

BRIEFER MENTION.

"Those Good Normans," by "Gyp," translated by Miss Marie Jussen (Rand, McNally & Co.), will probably be found in some degree amusing by all readers. Although based on the not unusual theme of semi-wealthy people trying to make themselves considered in society, yet the setting, if we may so call it, as well as the development and the dialogue, is so cleverly managed as to be the source of much pleasure. It must be allowed that a good deal of the sprightly Countess's satire loses point if one be not somewhat familiar with French life; and the translation will not always, we think, give the right idea to one unacquainted with the French language. Still, the inexhaustible invention and cleverness of "Gyp" will overcome even these drawbacks, so that those for whom the translation is obviously made will probably enjoy it, while it will not materially injure those who could read the book in the original.

Mr. Raymond A. Robbins, of Boston, is the publisher of the book of the "Captive" of Plautus, prepared for the presentation of the play last spring by the students of the Boston University. The book gives the Latin text and English translation on opposite pages; the latter, by Professor Joseph R. Taylor, being extremely modern and colloquial in diction. For example: "Abi in malem rem, ludis me," becomes "To perdition! You're making game of me." Greek phrases are reproduced in German, to get the effect of the foreign language. The English version is extremely readable, and has caught the spirit of the play most happily.

Mr. Charles Johnston, of the Bengal Civil Service, has made a little volume of selections "From the Upanishads" (Mosher) which will be welcomed by amateur orientalists. They contain the very essence of Indian philosophy, as embodied in its deepest books. In a beautiful dedication to Mr. G. W. Russell (the A. E. of "Homeward") the translator says of the books of Indian Wisdom: "I have found them wise, beyond all others; and, beyond all others, filled with that very light which makes all things new; the light discovered first within, in the secret place of the heart, and which brimming over there fills the whole of life, lightening every dark and clouded way." It is not so much the scholarship displayed by the book as the taste shown in the selection and the exquisite delicacy of the English version that will make those cherish it into whose hands it may fall.

In the series of "Periods of European History" (Macmillan), of which Mr. Arthur Hassall is the general editor, three of the eight volumes projected have been for some time published, and the editor himself now contributes the fourth, taking for his subject the period 1715-1789, and calling his volume "The Balance of Power." The history of Europe in the eighteenth century is at best "a tangled skein," and Mr. Hassall has been unusually successful in his effort to bring order out of the seeming chaos.

LITERARY NOTES.

"Bar Harbor," by Mr. F. Marion Crawford, appears in the "American Summer Resorts" series of Messrs. Charles Scribner's Sons.

"The Facts of Life" is a book of conversational exercises in the French language, prepared by Messrs. V. Bétis and H. Swan, and published by the Scribners.

Mark Twain's "The Prince and the Pauper" is the third volume in the handsome library edition of our chief American humorist now in course of publication by Messrs. Harper & Brothers.

Mr. W. J. Jordan has severed his connection with "Current Literature," and will devote himself to the completion of "Jordan's Guide to Poetry and Prose," an index of the chief English anthologies.

Joseph Wesley Harper, who died on the 21st of July, at the age of sixty-six, was for many years a member of the firm of Harper & Brothers, being the son and namesake of one of its founders. He retired from active business only two years ago.

The edition of Marryatt which Messrs. Little, Brown, & Co. are now publishing in this country progresses apace. "Japhet in Search of a Father," "The Pacha of Many Tales," and "Mr. Midshipman Easy" are the latest volumes received by us.

Mr. S. C. Griggs, the oldest general publisher in Chicago, has retired from business on account of failing health, his entire stock being sold to Messrs. Scott, Foresman & Co. Mr. Griggs had been engaged in the book business in Chicago for nearly half a century.

Charles Dickens, the son of the novelist, died on the 20th of July, and his sister Mary on the 24th. Charles was editor of "All the Year Round" after his father's death, and, later, of "Household Words." He was very successful as a reader from his father's works, both in England and the United States.

The Macmillan Company publish "Macbeth" and "Antony and Cleopatra," in the "Temple" Shakespeare; a concluding volume of the "Idyls of the King," and "The Lover's Tale," in the "People's" Tennyson; and "Biblical Idyls" (Solomon's Song, Ruth, Esther, Tobit), in "The Modern Reader's Bible."

The Right Rev. Arthur Cleveland Coxe, Bishop of Western New York, died on the 20th of July, at the age of seventy-eight. He was the author of numerous contributions to theological controversy, edited nine volumes of the "Ante-Nicene Fathers," and wrote a considerable quantity of religious verse.

Miss Jane Minot Sedgwick's "Songs from the Greek," published by Messrs. George H. Richmond & Co., is a pretty little book of translations, gracefully done and including selections from the choruses of the tragedies, the fragments of Sappho, the Alexandrian poets, and the Anthology. All have been done before, and many of them better done, but the book is still welcome.

Two new volumes in the Scribner series of "Stories by English Authors" have been published. They have for their subjects "Scotland" and "The Orient." The former volume leads off with Messrs. Barrie, Crockett, and Watson, while Aytoun, Stevenson, and Sir Walter bring up the rear. "The Orient" is illustrated by Mr. Kipling, Miss Mitford, and a number of nonentities.

Ernst Curtius, who died on the 13th of July, had nearly completed his eighty-second year. He was a professor at Göttingen from 1856 to 1868, and after-

wards at Berlin. He was chiefly responsible for the German excavations at Olympia. Besides his great "History of Greece," he wrote many other works in the department of classical history, philology, and archaeology.

The sudden death, in the prime of life, of William Hamilton Gibson, is a loss to American art and literature alike. He was born October 5, 1850, and died on the sixteenth of last month. He first became widely known through the natural history articles, illustrated by himself, that appeared in "Harper's Magazine" some years ago. These articles, and others, were afterwards collected in a number of the most charming books of natural history ever written, of which "Sharp Eyes" and "Nature's Serial Story" are perhaps the best known. His last book was the beautifully illustrated volume on "Our Edible Mushrooms," one of the most conspicuous holiday publications of the past season.

We are glad to call the attention of our readers to the "Cumulative Index to a Selected List of Periodicals," now being issued in monthly parts by the Cleveland Public Library. Over fifty English and American periodicals are regularly indexed, while important articles in a number of others will also be noted. The "Index" is on the plan of a dictionary catalogue, authors and subjects being included in a single alphabet. The most valuable feature of this work is, however, that indicated by the first word of the title. Each monthly issue of the "Index" will contain not only the entries for that particular month, but also all the others that have accumulated during the year. Thus, the December number will refer to the contents of the selected periodicals for the entire year. Although publication of the work began with June, it is promised that the issue for next December shall be for the year 1896 complete. This plain statement of the work to be done by the "Index" will show, better than any words of praise, how great a help it will be to all literary workers, and how deserving of support is the enterprise.

William Henry Smith, author of "The St. Clair Papers" and other historical works, died at his home in Lake Forest, Ill., July 27, in his sixty-third year. Mr. Smith was a life-long student of history, especially the political history of his own country, with which he was very familiar, and on which he made numerous contributions to the magazines and periodicals, including many valuable reviews in the pages of THE DIAL. He was also a life-long journalist, one of the better class whose work and influence can ill be spared from American journalism. He began as editor of a country newspaper in Ohio—the friend and fellow-worker of Mr. W. D. Howells in that humble field,—and rose to the position of General Manager of the Associated Press, which he held for over twenty years, resigning it in 1893 in order to devote his time to the historical work that so much engaged his scholarly interest. The rest and relief from business which he had so long promised himself came, however, too late; his health, already undermined, failed rapidly under the shock of the loss of his wife and daughter, occurring in swift succession. His death leaves unfinished the most important work of his life, "The Political History of the United States," as also a life of President Hayes, whose literary executor he was. Mr. Smith had seen much of public life and men, having been Secretary of State of Ohio during the Civil War, and Collector of the Port of Chicago from 1877 to 1883. He was a man of singular elevation of character, and of dignified and engaging personality.

TOPICS IN LEADING PERIODICALS.

August, 1896 (First List).

Australia, Federation of. Owen Hall. *Lippincott*.
 Barbary, Peeps into. J. E. B. Meakin. *Harper*.
 Bicycle, Influence of the. J. B. Bishop. *Forum*.
 Bird Notes in Southern California. H. L. Graham. *Overland*.
 Bryan, William Jennings. W. J. Abbot. *Rev. of Reviews*.
 Burnt Wood in Decoration. J. W. Fosdick. *Century*.
 College Problems, Present. D. C. Gilman. *Atlantic*.
 Continental Literature, A Year of. *Dial*.
 Don Quixote, On the Trail of. A. F. Jaccazi. *Scribner*.
 Economics, Altruism in. W. H. Mallock. *Forum*.
 Financial Bronco, The. T. S. Van Dyke. *Forum*.
 Flower Gardens, Old Time. Alice Morse Earle. *Scribner*.
 Free-Silver Epidemic, The. Justin S. Morrill. *Forum*.
 Gladstone at Eighty-Six. W. T. Stead. *McClure*.
 Glave in Nyassaland. From his journal. *Century*.
 Godkin on the West. Charles S. Gled. *Forum*.
 Greenland Icefields. Rollin D. Salisbury. *Dial*.
 Heraldry in America. Eugene Zieber. *Lippincott*.
 Immigration Evils. Rhoda Gale. *Lippincott*.
 Indian Medicine Men. L. G. Yates. *Overland*.
 Italian Painters, Contemporary. Will H. Low. *McClure*.
 Japanese Art, Faces in. Lafcadio Hearn. *Atlantic*.
 Li Hung Chang. John W. Foster. *Century*.
 Literary Production, Present. Paul Shorey. *Atlantic*.
 Longfellow. W. D. Howells. *Harper*.
 Matrimonial Market, The. Edward Cary. *Forum*.
 New Testament Literature, Recent. Shailer Mathews. *Dial*.
 Pharaoh of the Hard Heart. Flinders Petrie. *Century*.
 Poetic Rhythms in Prose. E. E. Hale, Jr. *Atlantic*.
 Stowe, Harriet Beecher. Julius H. Ward. *Forum*.
 Stowe, Harriet Beecher. *Review of Reviews*.
 Stowe, Mrs., Days with. Mrs. J. T. Fields. *Atlantic*.
 Taylor, Bayard, as a Man of Letters. *Dial*.
 Travels, Recent Books of. *Dial*.
 Vatican, The. F. Marion Crawford. *Century*.
 Woman Question in Middle Ages. Emily Stone. *Lippincott*.
 Yosemite and the Big Trees. Rounseville Wildman. *Overland*.

LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

[The following list, containing 72 titles, includes books received by THE DIAL since its last issue.]

GENERAL LITERATURE.

Studies Subsidiary to the Works of Bishop Butler. By the Right Hon. W. E. Gladstone. 12mo, pp. 370. Macmillan Co. \$2.
 Social Forces in German Literature: A Study in the History of Civilization. By Kuno Francke, Ph.D. 8vo, gilt top, uncut, pp. 577. Henry Holt & Co. \$2.
 Thus Spake Zarathustra: A Book for All and None. By Friedrich Nietzsche; trans. by Alexander Tille. 12mo, uncut, pp. 479. Macmillan Co. \$2.50.
 The Authorship of the King's Quair: A New Criticism. By J. T. T. Brown. 8vo, uncut, pp. 99. Macmillan Co. \$1.50.
 Prose Fancies, Second Series. By Richard Le Gallienne. 16mo, gilt top, uncut, pp. 201. H. S. Stone & Co. \$1.25.
 Lovers Three Thousand Years Ago. By Rev. T. A. Goodwin. 12mo, pp. 41. "Religion of Science Library." Open Court Pub'g Co. Paper, 15 cts.

NEW EDITIONS OF STANDARD LITERATURE.

Johnson's Lives of the Poets. Edited by Arthur Waugh. Vols. III., and IV.; each with portraits, 16mo, gilt top, uncut. Chas. Scribner's Sons. Per vol., \$2.50.
 The Novels of Captain Marryat. Edited by R. Brimley Johnson. New vols.: The Pacha of Many Tales, Mr. Midshipman Easy, and Japhet in Search of a Father. Each illus., 12mo, gilt top, uncut. Little, Brown, & Co. Per vol., \$1.50.
 Spenser's Faerie Queene. Edited by Thomas J. Wise; illus. by Walter Crane. Part XIV.; large 8vo, uncut. Macmillan Co. \$3.

Poems of William Wordsworth. Edited by William Knight. With portrait, 12mo, uncut, pp. 399. Macmillan Co. \$1.50.

The Prince and the Pauper. By Mark Twain. Illus., 12mo, pp. 309. Harper & Bros. \$1.75.

"Temple" Shakespeare. Edited by Israel Gollancz, M.A. New vols.: Antony and Cleopatra, and Macbeth. Each with frontispiece, 24mo, gilt top, uncut. Macmillan Co. Per vol., 45 cts. net.

"People's" Edition of Tennyson's Works. New vols.: Idylls of the King, Part VI., and The Lover's Tale. Each 24mo, uncut. Macmillan Co. Per vol., 45 cts.

Biblical Idylls. Edited by R. G. Moulton, M.A. 24mo, gilt top, pp. 149. "Modern Reader's Bible." Macmillan Co. 50 cts.

HISTORY.

King and Parliament (A. D. 1601-1714). By G. H. Waking, M.A. 16mo, pp. 135. "Oxford Manuals of English History." Chas. Scribner's Sons. 50 cts. net.

BIOGRAPHY AND MEMOIRS.

Nathaniel Massie, Pioneer of Ohio. With Selections from his Correspondence. By David Meade Massie. With portrait, 8vo, pp. 285. Cincinnati: Robt. Clarke Co. \$2.

Famous Scots Series, new vols.: John Knox, by A. Taylor Innes, and Robert Burns, by Gabriel Setoun. Each 12mo. Chas. Scribner's Sons. Per vol., 75 cts.

FICTION.

The Master Craftsman. By Sir Walter Besant. With portrait, 12mo, pp. 354. F. A. Stokes Co. \$1.50.

Tales of Fantasy and Fact. By Brander Matthews. With frontispiece, 12mo, pp. 216. Harper & Bros. \$1.25.

In the Wake of King James; or, Dun-Randal on the Sea. By Standish O'Grady. 12mo, gilt top, uncut, pp. 242. J. B. Lippincott Co. \$1.25.

Yekl: A Tale of the New York Ghetto. By A. Cahan. 12mo, uncut, pp. 190. D. Appleton & Co. \$1.

The Crimson Sign. By S. R. Keightley. Illus., 12mo, pp. 356. Harper & Bros. \$1.50.

The Island of Doctor Moreau: A Possibility. By H. G. Wells. 16mo, gilt top, uncut, pp. 249. Stone & Kimball. \$1.25.

The Silk of the Kine. By L. McManus. 12mo, pp. 195. Harper & Bros. \$1.

Sir Mark: A Tale of the First Capital. By Anna Robeson Brown. 16mo, pp. 159. D. Appleton & Co. 75 cts.

A Stumbler in Wide Shoes. 16mo, gilt top, uncut, pp. 411. Henry Holt & Co. \$1.

The Finding of Lot's Wife. By Alfred Clark. 12mo, pp. 314. F. A. Stokes Co. \$1.

Blind Leaders of the Blind: The Romance of a Blind Lawyer. By James R. Cocks, M.D. With portrait, 12mo, pp. 487. Lee & Shepard. \$1.50.

Checkers: A Hard-Luck Story. By Henry M. Blossom, Jr. 16mo, gilt top, uncut, pp. 239. H. S. Stone & Co. \$1.25.

The Sentimental Sex. By Gertrude Warden. 12mo, uncut, pp. 207. D. Appleton & Co. \$1.

Lady Val's Elopement. By John Bickerdike. 12mo, pp. 311. J. B. Lippincott Co. \$1.

Some Correspondence and Six Conversations. By Clyde Fitch. 18mo, gilt top, uncut, pp. 150. Stone & Kimball. \$1.

The Touch of Sorrow: A Study. 16mo, gilt top, uncut, pp. 279. Henry Holt & Co. \$1.

A Humble Enterprise. By Ada Cambridge. 12mo, pp. 268. D. Appleton & Co. \$1.

From Whose Bourne. By Robert Barr. Illus., 18mo, uncut, pp. 210. F. A. Stokes Co. 75 cts.

A Hypocritical Romance, and Other Stories. By Caroline Ticknor. Illus., 16mo, gilt top, uncut, pp. 244. Joseph Knight Co. \$1.

Stories by English Authors. New vols.: Scotland, and The Orient. Each with portrait, 16mo. Chas. Scribner's Sons. Per vol., 75 cts.

The Reason Why: A Story of Fact and Fiction. By Ernest E. Russell. 12mo, pp. 365. New York: The Author. \$1.

A Child of Nature. By Abner Thorp, M.D. Illus., 12mo, pp. 244. Curtis & Jennings. 75 cts.

NEW VOLUMES IN THE PAPER LIBRARIES.

Band, McNally's Bialto Series: Checked Through, by Richard Henry Savage; 12mo, pp. 329, 50 cts.

TRAVEL AND DESCRIPTION.

- Climbs in the New Zealand Alps: Being an Account of Travel and Discovery. By E. A. Fitzgerald, F.R.G.S. Illus. in photogravure, etc., large 8vo, gilt top, uncut, pp. 363. Chas. Scribner's Sons. \$7.50 net.
- From North Pole to Equator: Studies of Wild Life and Scenes in Many Lands. By Alfred Edmund Brehm; trans. by Margaret R. Thomson; edited by J. Arthur Thomson, M.A. Illus., large 8vo, gilt top, pp. 592. Chas. Scribner's Sons. \$6.
- Sport in the Alps in the Past and Present. By W. A. Baillie-Grohman. Illus., 8vo, gilt top, uncut, pp. 356. Chas. Scribner's Sons. \$5.
- The Cruise of the "Antarctic" to the South Polar Regions. By H. J. Bull. Illus., 8vo, uncut, pp. 243. Edward Arnold. \$4.
- The Downfall of Prempeh: A Diary of Life with the Native Levy in Ashanti, 1895-96. By Major R. S. S. Baden-Powell. Illus., 8vo, uncut, pp. 198. J. B. Lippincott Co. \$3.50.
- Persia Revisited (1895), with Remarks on H. I. M. Mozuffer-Din Shah, and the Present Situation in Persia (1896). By General Sir Thomas Edward Gordon, K.C.I.E. Illus., 8vo, uncut, pp. 208. Edward Arnold. \$3.
- The Ouananiche, and its Canadian Environment. By E. T. D. Chambers. Illus., 8vo, gilt top, uncut, pp. 337. Harper & Bros. \$2.
- New Wheels in Old Ruts: A Pilgrimage to Canterbury via the Ancient Pilgrim's Way. By Henry Parr. Illus., 12mo, uncut, pp. 197. J. B. Lippincott Co. \$1.50.
- Bar Harbor. By F. Marion Crawford. Illus., 12mo, pp. 59. "American Summer Resorts." Chas. Scribner's Sons. 75 cts.
- Paul's Dictionary of Buffalo, Niagara Falls, Tonawanda, and Vicinity. Illus., 16mo, pp. 256. Buffalo: Peter Paul Book Co. Paper, 30 cts.

SOCIAL, FINANCIAL, AND POLITICAL STUDIES.

- Introduction to Sociology. By Arthur Fairbanks. 8vo, pp. 274. Chas. Scribner's Sons. \$3. net.
- Revolution and Counter-Revolution; or, Germany in 1848. By Karl Marx; edited by Eleanor Marx Aveling. 12mo, uncut, pp. 148. Chas. Scribner's Sons. \$1.
- Workers on their Industries. Edited, with Introduction, by Frank W. Galton. 12mo, uncut, pp. 239. Chas. Scribner's Sons. \$1.
- International Bimetallism. By Francis A. Walker. 12mo, pp. 297. Henry Holt & Co. \$1.25.
- Gold and Silver Coinage under the Constitution. 12mo, pp. 115. Rand, McNally & Co. Paper, 25 cts.
- Municipal Government in Michigan and Ohio. By Delos F. Wilcox, Ph.D. 8vo, uncut, pp. 180. "Columbia University Studies." Paper, \$1.

PHILOSOPHY.

- Schopenhauer's System in its Philosophical Significance. By William Caldwell, M.A. 8vo, uncut, pp. 538. Chas. Scribner's Sons. \$3. net.
- The Truth of Thought; or, Material Logic. By William Poland. 12mo, gilt top, pp. 208. Silver, Burdett & Co.

SCIENCE AND NATURE.

- The Scenery of Switzerland and the Causes to Which It Is Due. By the Right Hon. Sir John Lubbock, Bart. Illus., 12mo, gilt top, pp. 371. Macmillan Co. \$1.50.
- Familiar Trees and their Leaves. Described and illustrated by F. Schuyler Mathews. 12mo, pp. 320. D. Appleton & Co. \$1.75.
- The Story of a Piece of Coal. By Edward A. Martin, F.G.S. Illus., 18mo, pp. 168. "Library of Useful Stories." D. Appleton & Co. 40 cts.
- The Royal Natural History. Edited by Richard Lydekker, B.A. Parts 26, 27, and 28; each illus., 8vo, uncut. F. Warne & Co. Per part, 75 cts.

BOOKS FOR SCHOOL AND COLLEGE.

- The Facts of Life, Part I. By Victor Bétis and Howard Swan. 8vo, pp. 115. "Psychological Methods of Teaching and Studying Languages." Chas. Scribner's Sons. 80 cts. net.
- Home and School Atlas. By Alex Everett Frye. 4to, pp. 48. Ginn & Co. \$1.15.

MISCELLANEOUS.

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